



# Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



*Vision Statement: As vigilant guardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.*

**DATE: March 1, 2016**

(Weeks of February 28 – March 13)

*This report represents some events the OLE handled over the last couple of weeks; however, it does not include all actions taken by the Office of Law Enforcement.*

*This report represents the county that the event took place within, not the assigned county of the Conservation Police Officer.*

## **REGION 1 – Captain Laura Petreikis**

### **District 1 – Sgt. T. Petreikis**

**(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)**

#### **CARROLL COUNTY**

CPO Jones and CPOT Cox stopped a vehicle for no rear registration light and improper lane usage. The subject was driving without a valid driver's license. The subject was arrested for driving without a license and was warned for his other violations.

CPO Jones arrested a Savanna man for being in the park after hours and possession of drug paraphernalia. A Clinton woman in the passenger seat was cited for open alcohol and was warned for being in the park after hours.

#### **HENRY COUNTY**

CPO Posateri interviewed a deer hunter in reference to possible permit violations. The Kewanee man admitted to not possessing a valid deer permit prior to taking a deer during the archery deer season. He was cited for the violation.

#### **JO DAVIESS COUNTY**

**CPO Hoogerwerf arrested a Stockton woman in Apple River Canyon State Park for the following violations: driving while suspended, driving without mandatory liability insurance, driving with an expired license plate and speeding.**

#### **ROCK ISLAND COUNTY**

CPO Posateri interviewed a Reynold man for a possible permit violation. The hunter admitted to taking a deer without a valid permit and failed to report the harvest by 10 p.m. the same day the deer was killed. He was cited for the violations.

## **District 6 – Vacant**

**(Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)**

### **BOONE COUNTY**

While in marked uniform patrol checking sport ice fishermen, CPO Alt clocked a motorist traveling 100 m.p.h. in a 55 m.p.h. zone. The 16 year old driver indicated she did not realize she was traveling that fast and claimed prior to being stopped was only traveling 75 m.p.h. The driver's license was taken as bond as per the Illinois Vehicle Code and a mandatory court appearance was set for the individual.

### **DEKALB COUNTY**

CPO Alt taught a hunter safety class at the DeKalb County Police Department.

### **LASALLE COUNTY**

While checking fishermen along the Illinois River in Starved Rock State Park, CPO Kaufman observed three individuals climbing up the west side of Starved Rock. CPO Kaufman told them to climb back down. One of the individuals said he thought they could hike or climb anywhere they wanted in the park. CPO Kaufman informed them they were incorrect and pointed out all the "Stay on marked trails" and the "No Climbing" signs they had passed. During consent search of their backpacks CPO Kaufman found cannabis, drug paraphernalia, and a rope they planned on using while in the park. Several citations were issued.

CPO Wright attended a question and answer session in Ottawa at the Bone Shed. Approximately 70 people were in attendance and numerous questions were asked reference concealed carry and CWD.

CPO Filipiak was on numerous foot patrols at Starved Rock, Buffalo Rock and Matthiessen State Parks – four individuals were arrested and issued eight citations for possession of cannabis and possession of drug paraphernalia. One individual was found to be in possession of cocaine, he was lodged at LaSalle County Jail.

One individual was arrested for remaining in Mathiessen State Park after it had closed.

Four individuals were arrested for climbing the canyon walls at Starved Rock.

Two individuals were arrested for operating a dirt bike and an ATV on the railroad tracks.

An individual was seen driving off of the roadway. An investigation lead to an arrest for DUI, the individual had a blood alcohol content of .104.

CPO Wire observed two people come off the trails at Matthiessen State Park in the dark. The park has large bluffs and strictly closes at dark. The two people were in possession of a hula hoop and nun chucks that could be lit on fire. They were also found to have drug paraphernalia, marijuana and alcohol in their possession. They were issued citations and processed at the Matthiessen Law Office.

CPO Wire cited an individual for failing to check his deer in at a firearm deer station in a chronic wasting disease (CWD) county.

CPO Jansen arrested one subject for possession of cannabis < 2.5 grms, possession of drug paraphernalia and entering a restricted area at Starved Rock State Park.

CPO Jansen discovered two subjects in a restricted area of Buffalo Rock State Park. Both subjects had beer in their possession and one had cannabis and paraphernalia. Citations were issued for minors in possession of alcohol, cannabis

<2.5 grms, drug paraphernalia, and entering a restricted area.

## PUTNAM COUNTY

CPOs Finn and Filipiak were patrolling the Illinois River near Hennepin when they observed a group of guys fishing from a Jon boat. After completing an inspection on the boat they found an equipment violation and four short walleye caught by two different fishermen. The owner of the boat had the equipment violation and admitted to keeping three of the short walleye. Another fisherman admitted to keeping the other short walleye. The owner received two citations and two warnings. The other fisherman received one citation.

## WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPO Fraser received a call from a concerned citizen who heard shots outside his home and found a dead deer on the side of the road. CPO Fraser and CPO Alt responded to the call and are currently working on leads based on the witness statement.

CPO Fraser and CPO Schoonhoven are investigating a dumping complaint in rural Winnebago County where concerned citizens located large piles of trash on the side of a county road. Mail and other items with suspect's information were located in the trash. The investigation is ongoing.

CPO Fraser attended a career day at a local elementary school. Three elementary classes were given a presentation about the job duties of a CPO and equipment used, the education trailer was also used for the presentation and the students were given a chance to see animal furs and mounts.

While in marked uniform patrol checking sport ice fisherman in Rock Cut State Park, CPO Alt drove past a stationary and idling motor vehicle at a day use area parking lot. This vehicle caught CPO Alt's attention after he noticed the white backup lights illuminated (indicating the car was in reverse gear) but could not see a driver through the rear window of the hatchback car. After closer inspection, CPO Alt observed the youthful driver was unconscious slumped forward against the driver's side door with his foot on the brake with the car in gear. Multiple attempts were made by CPO Alt before the driver finally woke up and unlocked his car to allow CPO Alt to check his welfare. CPO ALT discovered multiple empty beer bottles in the passenger compartment of the motor vehicle and an empty bottle of prescription sleeping pills on the front passenger seat. An ambulance and back up assistance was immediately called. CPO Alt then helped the partially conscious driver out of the car and kept him standing and, while rubbing his arms, kept him talking to stay awake until the ambulance arrived. Later, while at the hospital emergency room, the grandmother of the youth approached CPO Alt and thanked him on behalf of their family for saving the life of her grandson.

## **District 7, Sgt. Scott Avery**

**(Counties: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, Marshall, McDonough, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, Warren & Woodford)**

## FULTON COUNTY

CPO Thompson investigated a case involving an individual suspected to have harvested a 9 point buck without first purchasing licenses and permits. CPO Thompson met with the man at his residence and proceeded to interview him in reference to the allegations. After a short interview, the suspect informed CPO Thompson he must have made a mistake because there is no way he shot a deer without licenses and permits. CPO Thompson informed the man he would be continuing to look into the allegations further. Two days later, the man contacted CPO Thompson and provided a full confession of how the harvest of the 9 point buck transpired. Citations were issued and the buck was seized as evidence.

CPO Thompson made pulled over two timber haulers in rural Fulton County. Upon completion of an inspection, CPO

Thompson found they were not in compliance with Illinois Statute requiring the drivers to possess and provide a copy of the bill of lading. Written warnings were issued.

CPO Thompson received a complaint of trespassing from a resident who had found footprints on his property while shed hunting. The complainant alleged it was a neighboring landowner due to past experience and a recent trail camera photo. After contacting the suspect and a short interview, the man admitted to trespassing. A citation was issued.

CPO Reid taught a hunter safety class in Fulton County.

#### HENDERSON COUNTY

CPO Reid investigated a report that a Bald Eagle had been shot in Henderson County. The bird was located and sent to the University of Illinois for examination. The results indicated the bird had died from striking a fixed object.

#### KNOX COUNTY

CPO Lazzell arrested a New Windsor man on a Mercer County warrant during a snowmobile enforcement detail conducted near the towns of Rio and Woodhull. In addition to the arrest warrant, the snowmobile operator was discovered to be operating his snowmobile on the highway without a valid driver's license or snowmobile safety card, operating an unnumbered snowmobile and had no proof of insurance. The New Windsor man was jailed on the arrest warrant and issued two citations and one written warning for his snowmobile violations. One additional snowmobile was located and the operator was issued one citation for operation of an unnumbered snowmobile and a written warning for not providing proof of insurance.

#### PEORIA COUNTY

CPO Lazzell closed a Peoria County case involving a hunter found to be unlawfully hunting deer with a crossbow in Singing Woods Nature Preserve, during the 2015 archery season. The Morton man was fined \$250 for unlawfully hunting in the Nature Preserve and his illegally used crossbow was awarded to the State by court order.

#### TAZEWELL COUNTY

CPO VanZant cited a subject at Powerton Lake for fishing in the restricted area.

CPO VanZant also cited two subjects for over the limit of white bass at Powerton Lake.

CPO VanZant interviewed a subject about a deer harvest from the 2015 firearm season. The subject was cited for taking a deer without a valid permit.

CPO VanZant investigated a complaint from the last shotgun deer season; a citation for failure to tag was issued.

CPO VanZant interviewed a subject about a possible poached deer in Tazewell County. Citations were issued for: unlawful transport of a loaded firearm in the vehicle, shooting from the roadway, wanton waste, Illegal hunt from vehicle, failure to tag deer, and illegal take of deer.

#### WOODFORD COUNTY

CPO Gerard received a disposition on a 2014 deer hunting case. An individual was cited for unlawfully hunting deer in a closed area of Woodford State Fish and Wildlife Area. In addition, the hunter harvested two deer including a 10 point buck. He was found guilty and fined \$1110.00 in Woodford County court.

## **REGION 2 – Captain Brett Scroggins**

### **District 2 – Sgt. Rich Riedel** **(Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)**

#### **KANE COUNTY**

CPO Kelley issued several written warnings to fishermen in Kane County.

#### **LAKE COUNTY**

CPO Schreiber responded to a snowmobiler who was rescued from Nippersink Lake after he attempted to operate his snowmobile across open water. Fortunately for him, the water was only a few feet deep and he was able to stand on the sled until rescue personnel arrived approximately 30 minutes later and pulled him from the icy waters. The subject was taken to Centegra Hospital in McHenry where he was subsequently arrested for careless operation of a snowmobile, operation of a snowmobile while under the influence of alcohol, operation of a snowmobile with a BAC over 0.08%, unnumbered snowmobile, and failure to provide valid proof of insurance. The subject submitted to chemical testing approximately 2 hours after the accident and blew 0.195%. The snowmobile was removed the following day.

CPO Schreiber assisted the Lake County Sheriff's department with a serious personal injury snowmobile accident involving a female subject who rolled her snowmobile over causing head trauma. Her BAC was approximately three times the legal limit and is still under investigation.

CPO Kelley made an appearance at a Hunter Safety Class at Bass Pro Shops in Gurnee, IL.

#### **McHENRY COUNTY**

CPO Winters completed Hazmat and Leads training

CPO Winters conducted traffic enforcement at Moraine Hills State Park where a few written warnings were issued for minor violations.

CPO Davis handled a boat accident that occurred on the Fox River. The operator entered the water and was transported to the hospital for hypothermia. He was released and made a full recovery.

CPO Winters followed up on a complaint about a subject with a mineral block and corn in his yard. A written warning was issued for being in violation of the CWD ad rule.

CPO Winters completed Hazmat and Leads training.

CPO Winters conducted traffic enforcement at Moraine Hills State Park where a few written warnings were issued for minor violations.

### **District 3 – Sgt. Mark Simon** **(Counties: Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall & Will)**

CPOs Anderson and Mieure continue to investigate cases of residency fraud between Indiana and Illinois.

## GRUNDY COUNTY

CPO Wollgast arrested two subjects at Gebhard Woods State Park for unlawful possession of cannabis.

CPO Wollgast observed a garage on fire while heading home for the day. He quickly called for the local fire department to respond and assisted in putting out the fire.

CPO Wollgast investigated a snowmobile incident where a snowmobile became stuck in a creek that flows through I & M canal property. The rider was cited for the violation.

CPO Wollgast continues to investigate a snowmobile registration complaint and a boat registration complaint.

## KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPOs Vadbunker and Mieure assisted ISP during the snow event, checking for stranded motorists BY using squads and a snowmobile

## KENDALL COUNTY

CPO Bergland heard a county dispatch reporting a vehicle driving backwards down a county road. He was close to the location and located the vehicle. The vehicle was stopped and the driver was found to have a \$25,000 warrant for fleeing/eluding and for speeding. The driver was taken into custody and transported to the county jail with CPO Bergland adding additional traffic charge to his court obligations.

## WILL COUNTY

CPO Reid conducted multiple patrols of private and corporate owned properties where trespass complaints have been signed. Several citations were issued to individuals who were unlawfully collecting shed deer antlers without permission.

CPO Reid and CPO Honiotes responded to a call of an abandoned horse at the Des Plaines Conservation Area. The located horse appeared very friendly however it exhibited signs of severe abuse and neglect. The horse also appeared to have a broken rear hip. The horse was rescued by a local equestrian center and an investigation into the abused and abandoned animal continues.

CPO Reid conducted surveillance on several fishermen along the Des Plaines River. CPO Reid watched as three individuals drank beer and discarded their empty cans on the ground. One subject then produced a marijuana pipe and cannabis as they each took turns smoking it. After making contact, it was discovered two of the individuals did not possess a valid fishing license. Multiple citations were issued for fishing without a license, littering, and one individual was arrested for unlawful possession of cannabis and paraphernalia.

CPO Wollgast cited two persons riding off road motorcycles at Des Plaines Conservation Area.

CPO Wollgast and CPOT Kashner conducted traffic enforcement at Des Plaines Conservation Area and issued written warnings to three individuals for speeding.

## **District 4 – Sgt. Bill Shannon** **(Counties: Cook & DuPage)**

## COOK COUNTY

CPO V. Smith while on patrol in Busse Lake issued a written warning for too many devices.

CPO V. Smith while on patrol issued a written warning for dumping trash onto a roadway.

CPO V. Smith attended In-Service Training at the IDNR Region 2 Headquarters in Bartlett.

CPO V. Smith while on patrol at Montrose Harbor issued three written warnings for fishing license not in possession.

CPO V. Smith while on patrol at Diversey Harbor and Lincoln Park Lagoon issued a citation for snagging of salmon and written warnings for fishing license not in possession and fishing without permission.

CPO Vaughan instructed game laws at a hunter safety class in Mt. Prospect. Approximately 30 students were attending the class.

CPO Mooi issued a written warning to a Chicago man for fishing without a license at Montrose Harbor.

CPO Farber cited a subject at Skokie Lagoon for fishing without a license. After seeing the Game Warden the subject immediately dropped his fishing pole and attempted to walk away. One citation was issued.

CPO Farber and Sgt. Shannon obtained an American Alligator from Friends With Scales Animal Clinic. Scott Ballard, IDNR Natural Heritage Biologist, was notified that the animal was turned into Friends With Scales. The 9 year old alligator was approximately 4 feet long and extremely aggressive. After a short interview with the owner of the alligator, he stated that the gator was purchased at the Lee Watson Reptile Swap in Schaumburg. The owner stated that he was getting married and his fiancé gave him a choice of her or the alligator. He did not have the required permits to possess an alligator in the State of Illinois. The Chicago man was issued a citation for unlawful possession of a threatened species and given a court date. The alligator was turned over to Bob Bavirsha, a licensed professional in Lake County.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were on patrol at Lake Michigan when they observed a male subject ice fishing on the frozen waters. The aforementioned male subject was observed discarding trash onto the frozen waters. He was also observed urinating on the ice in open view to the public. The subject was cited for unlawful pollution of a waterway.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were on patrol at a Cook County Lake when they observed a subject ice fishing in an area where only two lines were lawfully permitted. The subject was fishing with four lines. The subject admitted to knowing that he could only use two lines. The subject was cited for the violation.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at a Cook County lake when they observed ice fishing devices actively set up and fishing with no one around. A short time later, an out of state subject arrived and claimed the ice fishing devices were his. The subject was informed of the tagging requirement for unattended devices. The out of state subject did not possess a valid non-resident sport fishing license. The subject was issued a citation for fishing without a valid non-resident fishing license.

CPO Whitchurch completed a commercial investigation which pertained to a Cook County company selling aquatic life covered by State Law at the retail and wholesale level without first obtaining the proper IDNR licenses. This company had purchased the required licenses in 2014, but had failed to do so the past two years. The owner of the company was met by CPO Whitchurch at the place of business. The business was charged by CPO Whitchurch with two counts of unlawfully conducting a wholesale fish market without a valid wholesale aquatic life dealer's license and for unlawfully conducting a retail fish market without a valid retail aquatic life dealer's license.

CPO Whitchurch attended and manned the *IDNR Booth* at the Tinley Park Fishing Show in Tinley Park. CPO Whitchurch conversed with the public and answered questions pertaining to fishing, hunting, boating, trapping, snowmobiling, and IDNR State Sites.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were on patrol at a frozen Cook County lake when they observed a subject catch and possess a rainbow trout. The subject was checked for a fishing license and inland trout stamp. When the subject was asked if he had an inland trout stamp, he instantly became very nervous and informed the CPOs he knew he

needed an inland trout stamp to possess the trout. The subject was issued a citation for catching and possessing a rainbow trout without having a valid inland trout stamp.

CPO Whitchurch conducted a commercial inspection on a commercial carrier which was transporting fish in Cook County. A close inspection of the aquatic goods being transported revealed the carrier was not in compliance with laws regarding the lawful tagging of the boxes housing the fish during transport. CPO Whitchurch contacted the manager of the company and informed him on the proper lawful way of tagging boxes housing aquatic life during transport. Enforcement action was taken against the company.

CPO Whitchurch conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle on a roadway at an IDNR owned property for a speeding violation. When CPO Whitchurch made the traffic stop, it was learned the driver of the vehicle did not possess valid proof of insurance. The driver of the vehicle was also driving the vehicle without a valid driver's license. The subject was arrested and bonded for unlawful operation of a motor vehicle without valid proof of insurance, unlawful operation of a motor vehicle without a valid driver's license, and for unlawful speeding. The subject will appear in court at a later date.

CPO Whitchurch completed a commercial investigation on a Cook County company who was unlawfully conducting a retail fish market without the proper IDNR License. This company was warned by the Illinois Conservation Police in 2014 for the same violation. CPO Whitchurch met with the owner of the company at the place of business. The business was cited for unlawfully conducting a retail fish market without a valid retail aquatic life dealer's license.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at Lake Michigan on a cool February afternoon when he observed a watercraft underway on Lake Michigan with its occupant actively fishing. CPO Whitchurch conducted a check of the fisherman's license and boating safety equipment. CPO Whitchurch learned the watercraft was not registered. The subject was cited for the registration violation.

CPO Macias and CPOT Poffenberger were enforcing fishing laws in Sedgewick Lake in Orland Park. They noticed two subjects fishing near broken ice. One subject did not have his license in his possession, the other thought the license she purchased in Michigan would suffice for Illinois. One subject was issued a written warning; the second was cited for no valid license.

CPO Macias and CPOT Poffenberger responded along with DuPage County police officers at the Burr Ridge boat launch to a group of people suspected of stealing firewood from the local 7-11 Store. Upon arrival the group of 10 people had a large fire roaring along with a few fishing rods. Two suspects admitted to stealing the firewood, another pair fishing had a valid fishing license but not on their person. CPOs issued a written warning, the DuPage County officers took the guilty subjects back to the 7-11 Store to pay for the stolen firewood.

CPO Macias and CPOT Poffenberger conducted a boat inspection on a boat that was purchased in Canada in 1972.

CPO Macias was driving en route to check some fishermen when he witnessed a van run through a major 4 way stop intersection. It caused two other vehicles to almost crash into each other. A stop was initiated and a citation was issued for failure to obey a traffic signal device.

#### DUPAGE COUNTY

CPO Mooi conducted follow up investigations for the Invasive Species Unit. Two separate businesses in DuPage County were issued citations and written warnings for unlawfully operating retail fish markets without valid aquatic fish dealer's licensing.

CPO Mooi conducted a follow up investigation for an Indiana Conservation Officer in DuPage County.



CPO Mooi attended the Willowbrook Wildlife Workshop in DuPage County providing answers to questions about new wildlife laws and the Herpatiles-Herps act from Animal Control Officers, Community Service Officers, Forest Preserve Officers and volunteer groups who were in attendance.

#### LAKE COUNTY

CPO Vaughan arrested a subject for operating a motor vehicle without a valid driver's license, operating a motor vehicle without registration, and operation of an uninsured motor vehicle. The vehicle was initially observed traveling southbound on Route 41 in Lake Forest without any license plates.

### **REGION 3 – Captain Jim Mayes**

#### **District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds**

**(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)**

Sgt. Brian McReynolds and CPO Greuel assisted with Winter Storm Response weather related motorist assists on I-57 and I-72 and blocking traffic on I-57 south of Mattoon due to power lines down across the entire Interstate.

#### COLES COUNTY

CPO Moody wrote multiple citations and warnings for various fishing and boating violations on Lake Charleston and Lake Paradise.

CPO Barnes and CPO Moody are investigating a Coles County man for the illegal take of a white-tailed deer.

#### MACON COUNTY

CPO Barnes responded to a hunting without permission complaint near Dalton City. A landowner witnessed two trucks loaded with dogs unload on his property so the dogs could chase down a coyote. CPO Barnes tracked down the hunters in Shelby County. The hunters admitted they did not have permission to hunt the property. Four subjects were cited for hunting without permission in Macon County.

#### MOULTRIE COUNTY

CPO Moody is investigating a dumping case on the Shelbyville Wildlife Management Area

#### SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Greuel cited a Shelbyville juvenile for speeding 97 m.p.h. in a 55 m.p.h. zone in Shelby County.

#### **District 19 – Sgt. John Williamson**

**(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)**

Macon, McLean, DeWitt, Champaign, and Vermilion:

District 19 officers assisted ISP with multiple crashes and stranded motorist during the winter storm that hit central Illinois. The officers transported stranded motorists, helped get vehicles back on the road, assisted in traffic crashes, and any other duties that were needed for the local State Police posts.

REGION 3: CPO Viverito and K9 Hank have successfully completed the K9 training class and are ready to go on patrol together.

## DEWITT COUNTY

Captain Mayes, while leaving Weldon Springs State Park, observed a male subject operating a tractor/lawnmower in the middle of a lane on the roadway. A check on the subject indicated alcohol impairment could be involved. The subject could not stand without holding onto the tractor, and when completing the field sobriety tests, could not complete or follow instructions. He was arrested for operating a motor vehicle/conveyance while under the influence of alcohol. He had a 30 pack of ICE House on his tractor. The subject was taken to the DeWitt County Jail where he had a B.A.C. of .247 (more than 3 times the legal limit). It was also discovered this D.U.I. was his fourth; he had a revoked driver's license for a previous D.U.I., and will now face felony charges.

## LIVINGSTON

District 19 Conservation Police Officers served a search warrant on an unlicensed taxidermist in Livingston County, subsequent to an on-going investigation by CPO Matt Graden. The investigation began after Illinois Conservation Police and the Livingston County State's Attorney's Office received several complaints alleging the taxidermist took in wildlife specimens, along with cash payments, then failed to complete the taxidermy work, refused to return the specimens, or give customer refunds. Numerous wildlife specimens, aquatic life specimens, and other physical evidence were seized. The case remains under investigation.



## VERMILION

CPO Cottrell and CPOT Sanford received a complaint of ATV's on the Harry Babe Woodard State Natural Area. They were able to locate two juveniles riding ATV's illegally in the area. CPO Cottrell was able to contact their parents. After the parents responded to the area and picked up the ATV's, written warnings were issued.

## REGION 4 – Captain Jamie Maul

### District 9 – Sgt. Mark Wagner

(Counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Macoupin, Pike & Schuyler)

## ADAMS COUNTY

CPO Blazinic received a commercial fishing complaint in Quincy. CPO Blazinic located a commercial fisherman who had 66 shovelnose sturgeons. He found 8 that were under 24 inches.

CPO Blazinic taught the basics hunting laws in an hour long presentation to a hunter safety course in Adams County.

## JERSEY COUNTY

Sgt. Wagner received a call from the Jersey County Sheriff's Department reference a domestic battery at Pere Marquette State Park Lodge on Valentine's Day. A lodge employee witnessed the battery and called the sheriff's department. Sgt. Wagner responded to the lodge and located the husband and wife. The wife admitted to punching her husband several times in the chest. The investigation revealed they both suffer from Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder.

Sgt. Wagner assisted Illinois State Police in a property damage only traffic crash. The driver slid off the road during a snow storm and hit a tree head on. The subject's father was attempting to tow the vehicle from the scene when Sgt. Wagner first arrived on the scene.

CPOT Snodgrass and CPO Goetten stopped a vehicle in Jersey County for improper lane usage. The driver and three passengers were found to be in possession of cannabis.

CPO Goetten approached a vehicle parked at Pere Marquette State Park at night. As he approached, the two occupants began making suspicious movements. The driver was found to be in possession of drug paraphernalia and cannabis. He was arrested and transported to the Jersey County jail.

CPO Goetten stopped a vehicle at Pere Marquette State Park. The driver was wanted on an Alton Police Department arrest warrant for failure to appear. Bond was \$16,000 (10%).

CPO Goetten stopped a motorcycle driver for driving 107 mph in a 55 mph zone in Jersey County. The subject pled guilty to reckless driving. His total fines and court costs were \$939.

CPO Goetten arrested a subject for driving while license suspended in Jersey County. The subject pleaded guilty to driving while license suspended. His total fines and court costs were \$1237. He was also sentenced to two days in jail.

CPO Goetten arrested a subject for DUI with a BAC of .190% in Jersey County. This was her second DUI arrest in one year. She pleaded guilty to the violation. She was sentenced to five days in jail and her total fines and court costs were \$2909.50.

CPO Michael Goetten arrested a subject for OUI with a BAC of .118% in Jersey County. The subject pleaded guilty to the violation. His total fines and court costs were \$1049.

CPO Michael Goetten arrested a subject for the second time in two years in Jersey County. On both arrests, the subject's BAC was double the legal limit. He pleaded guilty to his first offense in 2015 before again being arrested. He again pleaded guilty to OUI. He was sentenced to two days in jail and his total fines and court costs were \$1582 for the second conviction.

#### MACOUPIN COUNTY

CPO Gushleff taught the basics hunting laws in an hour long presentation to a hunter safety course in Macoupin County.

#### PIKE COUNTY

CPO Drone taught the basics hunting laws in an hour long presentation to a hunter safety course in Pike County.

### **District 10 – Sgt. Chris Stone**

**(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)**

#### CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Cochran received the following court dispositions:

Two deer hunters paid a total of \$360 in fines for failure to tag whitetail does upon kill.

A subject paid \$1267 in fines and court costs for unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia.

Three subjects were found guilty and paid fines of \$980 for unlawful transfer of white tail deer permits.

CPO Cochran and CPOT Tanke seized four deer stands on Sangchris Lake State Park property for failure to take down tree stands prior to closed season, failure to provide identification on tree stands as required, and for destruction of state property (cut trees and tree limbs).

#### SANGAMON COUNTY

CPO Bettis received the following court disposition. A subject who had given false name, address and date of birth, pleaded guilty to resistance to an officer. The subject paid a \$335.00 fine and received three months supervision.

### **District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker**

**(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)**

#### BOND COUNTY

CPO Liebl and Sgt. Manker were working Bond and Clinton Counties checking snow goose hunters when they came across two vehicles parked just off the roadway near a field full of geese. As they were watching the vehicles, shots were heard from the area. A check of the hunters showed two Madison County men who could not get their stories straight on what they were doing. The men said they had not shot from the road, but their empty shotgun shells lying at the road showed differently. Eventually one hunter stated he was fixing his jammed shotgun and had fired from the roadway. The other hunter stated he only fired from in front of his truck into the field. The hunters claimed they obtained permission from the nearest residence before hunting. The one hunter was cited for shooting from a roadway, and they were told that contact would be made to make sure they had permission. Later that day, a check with the homeowner the hunters supposedly talked to showed that they had never asked for permission and that the field the hunters were in was owned by someone who lived a few miles away. Contact was made with the appropriate landowner who wished to file hunting without permission charges on the hunters. The hunters were later contacted and cited for the offense.

#### CLINTON COUNTY

CPO Tapley stopped a timber truck for an inspection. The Missouri driver was found to not have a valid CDL (Commercial Driver's License). He was issued a citation for his violation.

CPO Tapley taught a hunter safety course in Bartelso. Twenty students were in attendance.

CPO Charles spoke to a group of young hunters at a hunter safety course in Clinton County.

CPO Liebl was informed of hunters possibly shooting at Canada Geese out of season in southern Clinton County. CPO Liebl went to the area and was able to observe three hunters around a small pond. One person was observed picking up Canada Geese decoys and a dead Canada Goose, before getting into a UTV with an uncased shotgun and driving off. The two other hunters were seen trying to get a boat in the water to go after a wounded Canada Geese on the ice. When CPO Liebl approached the hunters, the one on the UTV tried to hide his goose in a shed. Once that goose was found, it was determined that five other Canada geese were hid inside a nearby shed. In all, seven Canada geese and three shotguns were seized. The hunters were charged with possession of freshly killed species out of season and unlawful take of Canada Geese. Warnings were also issued for other violations noted.

#### MADISON COUNTY

CPO Ray responded to an anonymous tip in Madison County regarding shots fired near a subdivision and the caller witnessing a subject throwing a turkey into the bed of a truck then leaving the scene in a hurry. The caller captured a picture of the vehicle and CPO Ray used this to his advantage. Once on scene, he gathered information and physical evidence from the scene of the crime. He quickly canvassed the area and located two subjects and a vehicle that matched the photo at a residence. The subjects were both dressed in camo and were driving down the driveway from a

house. CPO Ray stopped and made contact with the subjects. In plain view was an uncased shotgun. There was also blood in the bed of the truck. CPO Ray questioned the subjects and they confessed to shooting the turkey. The hen turkey was hidden in a shed at the residence.

CPO French and CPOT Snodgrass were on patrol in Horseshoe Lake State Park when they observed a subject acting suspicious. The subject appeared to be hiding things and was shaking violently. They proceeded to go meet with subject when he abruptly got in his car and drove to another parking lot. While there he popped the hood on the car and began peering inside. Thinking his behavior was attributed to car problems, they drove to speak with him. The subject walked up to the CPOs and introduced himself to them. When asked if he was having car trouble, the Granite City subject informed them he was just checking the oil and a friend was coming to meet him. Having nothing to hold him on they drove away and ran the subject's information. While waiting on a return, a black SUV arrived and the passenger in the vehicle got into the car and began driving the Granite City subject away. As they were driving away, the subjects information came backed and showed he had an active warrant and was operating a motor vehicle while his license was revoked. A subsequent traffic stop occurred and the Granite City subject was arrested. The new driver was discovered to have his license revoked as well and car did not have valid insurance. A tow was called for the vehicle as required by state law. The driver called for a valid driver to come and pick him up which happened to be his wife. The wife showed up to pick up her husband. Her information was taken and it turned out that she did not have a valid license as well. Needless to say, several citations were issued during the course of the stop.

CPO Rolingsmeier took a report of a burnt vehicle at Horseshoe Lake State Park. The vehicle was stolen out of Granite City and set afire at Horseshoe Lake State Park. The investigation is ongoing.

CPO Rolingsmeier while working Horseshoe Lake State Park pulled over a vehicle for failure to use its turn signal. The driver turned out to be driving while his license has been revoked. The driver was cited for the violation.

#### MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CPO French and CPO Liebl were travelling back from Springfield after training when they observed a white sedan catching up with their vehicle very quickly. CPO French was able to capture the vehicle's speed at 90 m.p.h. in posted 70 m.p.h. zone. They initiated a traffic stop and during the course of the stop the smell of cannabis was strong coming from driver's side of the vehicle. A search of the vehicle turned up two pipes with fresh burnt cannabis in them. The female driver was arrested for drug paraphernalia and for speeding and was taken to Litchfield for processing.

#### RANDOLPH COUNTY

CPO Charles received a disposition on a case where two individuals were trespassing on coal mine ground in Randolph County illegally harvesting Goldenseal root. The two trespassers pleaded guilty and paid over \$700 in fines and received 6 months court supervision.

CPO Ray arrested a subject at the World Shooting Complex for driving with expired registration and illegal transportation of open alcohol.

CPO Ralph Sievers and CPOT Justin Knop were patrolling the Kaskaskia River by boat and located 18 traps. Two of the traps had live raccoons in them. The raccoons were released unharmed. It was 4 days after the closing of the raccoon trapping season in the southern south. CPO Sievers met the trapper the next day. The trapper admitted to not checking his traps every calendar day and stated that he was working long hours during the week. The trapper was issued a citation for trapping raccoons after the close of season, a written warning for not checking his traps every calendar day, and the traps were seized for forfeiture.

CPO Ralph Sievers and CPOT Justin Knop gave a presentation about the job duties of a Conservation Police Officer and the furbearing mammals of Illinois to approximately 100 students and 10 adults at the St. Mary Catholic School.

CPO Ralph Sievers presented to a Hunter Safety Class at the Waterloo Sportsmen's Club and the Sparta VFW.

## **REGION 5 – Captain Tim Daiber**

### **District 14 – Sgt. Jeff Cariens**

**(Counties: Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Pope, Saline, White)**

Captain Daiber, Sgt.'s Hyatt, Cariens and Taylor and CPO Folden attended the Southern Illinois Criminal Justice Summit in Effingham.

#### **FRANKLIN COUNTY**

CPO Jourdan arrested a man at the Rend Spillway for snagging paddlefish.

CPO Lay issued a citation and written warnings to a Franklin County fisherman after it was learned that the fisherman did not possess his fishing license, had an expired driver's license and his license plate sticker was expired as well

#### **HAMILTON COUNTY**

CPO Folden taught the law portion of a Trappers Safety Course in Hamilton County.

CPO Folden conducted a traffic stop on two ATVs illegally operating on the roadway in Hamilton County. During the stop CPO Folden identified one subject was wanted on a Franklin County Warrant. The operators of the ATVs were issued written warnings for their violations. The wanted person was arrested and taken to Hamilton County Sheriff's Department where he posted \$500.00 cash and was released.

#### **HARDIN COUNTY**

CPO Diggins closed a 2015 non-resident hunting over bait/unlawful take of deer case in Hardin County. The violator pleaded guilty to unlawful transportation of an uncased firearm in the plea agreement. The violator was fined \$400.00 and agreed to donate \$400.00 to the Conservation Police Operations fund.

#### **JEFFERSON COUNTY**

CPO Jourdan continues to investigate two timber cases.

CPO Lay investigated a trash dumping on the EADS Unit of Ten Mile Creek. He issued a citation to a Jefferson County woman for littering on the State Property.

CPO Lay assisted the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office with the recovery of a stolen vehicle from a strip-cut located at the Ten Mile Creek, EADS unit site.

CPO Lay assisted the Illinois State Police with traffic control for a vehicle crash on Interstate 57, during a winter storm.

#### **POPE COUNTY**

CPO Johnson investigated two subjects for unlawful use of landowner permits. Four written warnings were issued.

## **SALINE COUNTY**

CPO Folden taught the law portion of a Hunter's Safety Course in Saline County.

### **District 15 – Sgt. Dave Hyatt**

**(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Edwards, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Richland, Wabash & Wayne)**

## **EFFINGHAM COUNTY**

CPO Smith was advised by an Effingham County resident, who resides in the rural southeast part of the county, that four whitetail deer were lying dead in a farm field to the north of their residence. CPO Smith responded to the call and met with the witnesses. The witnesses led CPO Smith to the four carcasses. CPO Smith observed three deer lying within 25 yards of one another; and the other was around 50 yards from the other three. CPO Smith did not observe nor could find any blood, nor could he find an entry/exit holes. CPO Smith observed scorched hair on one of the deer. CPO Smith believes the four deer were struck by lightning the night before. Effingham County did experience a severe thunder and lightning storm in the early hours February 21, 2016. CPO Smith forwarded the information of the incident to the IDNR wildlife biologist.

CPO Smith and CPOT Roper were working near the Altamont Reservoir and observed a pickup truck sitting near the water. CPO Smith and CPOT Roper approached the area on foot and observed two individuals fishing. The officers approached the two fishermen and asked if they had caught anything and inquired about a fishing license. One individual responded and asked if CPO Smith meant a driver's license. CPO Smith said "fishing license". CPO Smith issued one citation each to the two individuals for fishing without a sport fish license.

CPO Smith was asked to teach wildlife laws and firearm safety pertaining to hunter safety education to a group of people at Beecher City.

## **JASPER COUNTY**

CPO Taylor conducted several boat inspections at Newton Lake. One citation was issued for insufficient wearable pfds (personal flotation devices).

## **WAYNE COUNTY**

CPO Taylor investigated a subject from Indiana for falsification of residency. The subject purchased Illinois resident landowner deer, turkey permits, and hunting /fishing licenses, for four years. The investigation is pending.

CPO Buhnerkempe completed a nine month investigation of multiple Indiana residents falsely claiming residency in Illinois in order to obtain free resident landowner deer permits. CPO Buhnerkempe and a detective with the Indiana Conservation Police interviewed four individuals in Indiana while CPO Smith concurrently interviewed 2 subjects in Illinois. The investigation uncovered the unlawful taking of 28 illegal deer and 2 illegal bobcats from Wayne County, IL from 2009 until present. Well over 100 violations on six individuals have been documented including felony resource theft, falsifying residency, hunting without valid hunting licenses and deer permits, unlawful use of other's deer permits, falsifying harvest records, unlawful take of protected species (bobcats), by use of snares and trapping with no valid trapping license to name a few. The complete list of charges has not yet been determined and all charges are pending at this time. A total of 5 whitetail buck skulls, 2 shoulder mounts, and 2 bobcat hides and skulls were seized as evidence. CPO Buhnerkempe would like to thank the Indiana Conservation Officers, Division of Investigations for their assistance in this case.

### **District 16 – Sgt. Kris Taylor**

**(Counties: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pulaski, Union & Williamson)**

District 16 officers completed In-service training last week. Training covered - First Aid, CPR, legal updates, Report Beam update, I-Phone update, radio procedure updates and Defensive Tactics training - ground fighting.

#### JACKSON COUNTY

CPO Mohrman and CPO Thompson attended a one day seminar by noted trainer Dave Grossman. The seminar entitled "The Bulletproof Mind" covered the mental and physiological aspects a police officer will encounter and must prepare for on the job.

CPO Mohrman and CPOT Knop assisted the Jackson County Sheriff's Office and other volunteer organizations with the search for two missing 9 year old boys in a very rural area of the county. The boys left home at 10am to play in the woods and were instructed to be home at 11am. By 2pm after parents and neighbors began a search the boys were still not located. An immense amount of ground personnel were deployed into the rugged and heavily wooded area and fortunately in a short time the boys were found. Other than wet, tired and hungry, the boys were fine.

CPO Mohrman responded to a report of a suspicious vehicle parked next to a large parcel of reclaimed mine ground now privately owned. The vehicle turned out to be the same vehicle described trespassing on this ground the week prior by one of the parcel's landowners. CPO Mohrman observed a lone subject walk off the property and when questioned stated he snuck on the property to shed antler hunt. When asked, the subject admitted he was also the one observed the week prior on this property. The subject was issued a citation for hunting without permission and a written warning for criminal trespass.

CPO Mohrman and CPOT Knop attended the first of what will probably be many planning meetings for the solar eclipse coming on August 21, 2017. This event is anticipated to bring an overwhelming amount of visitor's to the parks in the Southern region. Some estimates are 100,000+ visiting the Southern Illinois region for this unique experience.

#### JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO M. Thompson was working the Cache River Natural Area when he came across an ATV being operated on U.S. Highway 45. It turned out the operator's driver's license was also revoked. The operator was cited for operating on the road and arrangements were made to trailer the ATV back home.

CPO M. Thompson completed two administrative deer investigations resulting in written warnings being issued. One subject did not have internet access and did not understand that the county he was hunting was not open for the late winter deer season. The other hunter had hunted deer while in possession of an apprentice license, without being accompanied by a license hunter; she was told by person selling license that she had everything she needed.

CPO M. Thompson responded to a complaint of a subject taking cut stone rocks from an old rest area on Route 37; the rest area is now part of the Cache River Natural Area. The subject was located and it was noted that he had removed two stones from the rock wall at the rest area. He was issued a written warning and understood not to remove anything from state property.

CPO M. Thompson completed an administrative deer investigation on a father and son that had hunted during the late winter deer season in a closed county. Several other violations were noted during interviewing and the son was cited for hunting without a valid deer permit and both were issued written warnings for other hunting violations.

CPO M. Thompson completed an administrative deer investigation on a hunter that resulted in the hunter being cited for taking a deer during firearm season without the correct county permit. The hunter was also issued written warnings for other hunting violations.

#### PERRY COUNTY

An investigation by CPO Lewis led to a hunter being cited for taking a deer without a valid permit in Perry County.



While patrolling Pyramid State Park, CPO Lewis observed three subjects sitting on a dock at Lost Lake. Upon seeing CPO Lewis, one of the subjects was seen throwing something in the water. As he approached the subjects, CPO Lewis detected a strong odor of cannabis. The Perry County Sheriff's office was contacted and they performed a canine sniff of the vehicle. The sniff resulted in the recovery of a smoking pipe located in one of the subject's purse and a baggy of cannabis in the front area of the vehicle. Due to the fact the subjects were juveniles, the possession of cannabis case was turned over to the Perry County Sheriff's Office juvenile officer. The subject who was seen throwing something into the water confessed it was a cannabis cigarette. He was cited for pollution of waterway. Additional charges are pending with Perry County State's Attorney.

CPO Lewis cited a subject for fishing without a license in Perry County.